

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

July 9, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jim Zajkowski, Craig Kittel and Mike Montello

Others Present: Jeremiah Wendt, Mike Darrow, Joel Enders, Nicole Wocelka, Jason Bakken, and Lori Brinkman

Jim Zajkowski called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Craig Kittel moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Mike Montello and carried.

Mike Montello moved to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2018, meeting, seconded by Craig Kittel and carried.

Parking Lot Parcel at S Arch Ave/E Third St

The City owns a parcel on the corner of South Arch Avenue and East Third Street that currently functions as a public parking lot. Nicole and Anthony Wocelka own the property abutting the parking lot to the southwest (a home and business). There is greenspace between the home and the parking lot, which the Wocelkas thought they owned. Staff has researched and found that the greenspace is actually City property. The Wocelkas have maintained the green space since purchasing the property last year (as did the previous owner for 20+ years). The Wocelkas would like to use some of the green space for additional parking (they currently have one parking stall). Jeremiah Wendt recommends conveying the green space to the Wocelkas.

Mike Montello made a motion to convey the greenspace to the adjacent property owners at 137 East Third Street, with the property owners to bear the cost of transferring the property, seconded by Jim Zajkowski and carried.

Right-of-Way Mowing Follow-Up

Late last year the Public Works Committee directed City staff to notify property owners that staff would no longer mow rights-of-way adjacent to privately owned properties. Notifications were mailed to these property owners stating they would be responsible for maintaining the property based on City Ordinance 70-9 which states "Every owner of land in the City whose land abuts a terrace is required to maintain, or have maintained by his tenant, the terrace directly abutting such land as provided in this section and elsewhere in this Code." The terrace area is defined as the land between the normal location of the street curb and sidewalk, or where there is no curb and gutter, the area 15 feet from the edge of pavement. Many of the areas are straightforward, however, there are some parcels that are oddly shaped and/or have excessive r-o-w areas that require further consideration. Jason Bakken owns one of these such parcels. According to the wording of the ordinance, he would need to maintain an additional .3 acres to be in compliance. Discussion followed. Mike Darrow and Craig Kittel both stated further consideration should be considered for some of these unique parcels.

Jim Zajkowski made a motion to table this item in order for the Public Works Committee to further define the regulations for these larger and/or oddly shaped parcels, seconded by Mike Montello and carried.

Knowles Avenue Corridor Study Proposals

Jeremiah explained a Request for Proposals was posted online and sent out to several firms for the Knowles Avenue Corridor Study. Staff received proposals from three firms (SEH, MSA, and SRF)

and Jeremiah outlined these proposals to the Public Works Committee. There was discussion about the proposals and next steps.

Mike Montello made a motion to go forward with interviewing the three firms, bringing in City staff and CAP members for the interviews along with Public Works Committee members, seconded by Jim Zajkowski and carried.

County Road A Trail Crossings

Jeremiah explained that as part of the 2018 Street and Utility projects, the City included Phase 1 of an off-street trail in the County Road A corridor, connecting the Woodland Creek and Willow River Bluffs subdivisions with the City's existing trail system. City staff, SEH, and St. Croix County staff have been working together to ensure the safest and most cost-effective design for a trail crossing. Two alternatives were presented to the Public Works Committee for consideration. Alternative 1 proposes to have two crossings, one at Quail Run and one north of Scenic Lane. Both crossings would be equipped with advanced warning signs, pavement markings, and push-button activated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at each location. Because of the turn lanes at the Quail Run crossing, the pavement is nearly 50 feet wide, and as a result, an overhead mast-arm mounted beacon would be required. The estimated cost of this alternative would be approximately \$120,000 (\$60,000 per location). Alternative 2 proposes having only one trail crossing north of Scenic Lane, with additional trail on the east side of CTH A to connect from Quail Run to that crossing location. This location is preferred because it is located at the apex of the hill and is narrower (due to no turn lanes). Because of the narrower roadway, a pedestal-mounted RRFB could be used instead of the overhead arrangement, which would cost approximately \$40,000. The additional trail is estimated to cost \$89,000, for a total cost of \$129,000. Discussion followed.

Mike Montello made a motion to approve Alternative 2 and add it by Change Order as discussed, seconded by Craig Kittel and carried.

DQ Surplus Equipment

There is an old sign with the Brazier logo on it from the former Dairy Queen property. The sign is attached to a vertical steel post. The sign and post have been stored at the compost site (in a back area) in anticipation of disposal at a later date along with other scrap metal. A resident discovered the sign and asked if he could have the sign (not the steel post). The sign, which is broken in several places, would first have to be declared surplus property by the City Council. It could then be disposed of one of the following ways: donation to a non-profit organization within the City, public auction, sale by sealed bid, negotiated sale, or destruction. Staff is requesting the Public Works Committee decide whether the sign is surplus property, and if so, how they would like it disposed of. Discussion followed.

Mike Montello made a motion to declare the sign as surplus property and offer a sale by sealed bid, seconded by Craig Kittel and carried.

Radar Sign Data Update

Jeremiah explained that as part of the 2016 and 2018 street and utility projects, radar speed detection signs were installed on Paperjack Drive and North Fourth Street. Jeremiah presented the most recent data collected from these signs. The average speed on North Fourth Street was 25 mph and the average speed on Paperjack Drive was 25-26 mph. There was very little traffic over the 35 mph range. The radar signs seem to be helping slow the traffic down on these two streets.

Communications and Miscellaneous

Craig brought up the speeds on County Road A and whether or not speeds will be reduced in the near future. Jeremiah stated the County is doing traffic studies in that area.

Mike Montello moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Craig Kittel and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lori Brinkman